

**WORLD KARATE  
FEDERATION TOKYO  
2020 QUALIFICATION  
TOURNAMENT  
CANADIAN KARATE  
TEAM SELECTION  
CRITERIA**

**(INTERNAL NOMINATION PROCEDURE)**



**OCTOBER 31, 2019**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Purpose:

The purpose of this document is to outline the qualification process and selection procedures of Karate Canada (KC) for determining those athletes who will be selected to represent Canada at the World Karate Federation (WKF) Olympic Games (OG) Qualification Tournament being held May 8-10, 2020 in Paris, France, as members of the Karate Canada Team. Canadian representation may occur in the individual kumite and individual kata divisions. As per published Olympic qualification criteria, the five (5) WKF Kumite Senior men categories and the five (5) WKF Senior women categories will be combined to form three (3) Olympic weight categories per gender.

### 1.2. Objectives:

The objective of this selection policy and procedure is to communicate a clear and transparent selection process that defines how the current, standard WKF category-based National Team selection process will be altered to accommodate the new combined OG categories.

	Male				Female			
Standard WKF Categories	-60 kgs -67 kgs	-75 kgs	-84 kgs +84kgs	Kata	-50 kgs -55 kgs	-61kgs	-68kgs +68kgs	Kata
Olympic Categories	-67 kgs	-75 kgs	+75kgs		-55kgs	-61kgs	+61kgs	

### 1.3. Contact Information

For any questions or clarifications on the contents of these Internal Nomination Procedures, please contact Karate Canada's High-Performance Director at: [kraig.devlin@karatecanada.org](mailto:kraig.devlin@karatecanada.org).

### 1.4. Team Size:

Karate Canada will have the opportunity to register one (1) athlete for each of the eight (8) categories, with exception to any category where Canada may already have an athlete qualified for Tokyo 2020 through the Olympic Standing of 6 April 2020. Athletes already qualified will not be allowed to participate nor will Canada be able to enter another athlete in that same division.

## **II. DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY:**

### **2.1 Development and Approval of the Internal Nomination Procedure (INP)**

Karate Canada's High-Performance Committee is responsible for developing (and recommending to Karate Canada's Board of Directors) the selection process and procedures for the athletes (team) that will be selected to represent Canada at the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament.

### **2.2. Implementation of the INP**

The High-Performance Director, Senior National Team Head Kumite Coach, and Head Kata Coach, in consultation with the Executive Director, are responsible for the implementation of these Board-approved procedures. All team nominations will be ratified by the High-Performance Committee. In the event that discipline-specific Head Coach position is not filled, a designated substitute may be identified.

### **2.3. On-site Decision-Making Authority During the Tournament**

During the actual competition period onsite at the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament, all final decision-making authority will reside with the Team Leader, or with a discipline-specific Senior National Team Head Coach (or designated substitute) in the absence of the Team Leader (This includes, but is not limited to, decisions around removal of an athlete from the team, management of injuries, etc.). Given that KC's National Team coaching structure utilizes discipline-specific Head Coaches, on-site decision-making authority, in the absence of the Team Leader, relating to a discipline-specific issues will lie with the Head Coach overseeing that discipline.

## **III. INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC) AND WORLD KARATE FEDERATION (WKF) CRITERIA**

The IOC and WKF Qualification System for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games can be found at: <https://wkf.net/pdf/olympic/Tokyo2020-QualificationSystem.pdf> and in the event of a discrepancy, the original IOC/WKF version will prevail. In the event of changes by the IOC/WKF to the Qualification System or the selection and eligibility criteria, Karate Canada is bound by these changes and will inform the membership as soon as possible.

These Internal Nomination Procedures are based on IOC/WKF rules and regulations as presently known and understood and on the latest information available to Karate Canada. Any changes in the selection criteria and procedures necessitated by a change in IOC/WKF rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes as soon as reasonably possible. Should such a circumstance occur, Karate Canada will review and amend these INP to comply with the new regulations or conditions. Amendments to this document will be communicated directly to the affected athletes, as well as being posted on Karate Canada's website.

All athletes who take part in the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament must achieve the minimum eligibility standards set forth by the IOC, as well as meet Karate Canada's eligibility requirements (see section IV below).

## **IV. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY**

### **4.1 General**

In order to be eligible for selection to the Canadian National Karate Team representing Canada at the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament, an athlete must comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force, including but not limited to:

1. Rule 41 (Nationality of Competitors)
2. Rule 43 (World Anti-Doping Code and the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions)

Further, selected athletes must:

1. Have a valid Canadian passport that does not expire on or before February 8, 2021 (passports must be valid for up to 6 months after the Games);
  - a) Be in compliance with all relevant WKF and IOC requirements for eligibility, which includes meeting the age eligibility requirements established by the World Karate Federation (WKF) for participation in Senior kumite and kata events (see article 4.2 below);
  - b) Be a registrant in good standing of a Provincial or Territorial Karate Organization which is, in turn, a member Association in good standing with Karate Canada.
  - c) Be a member in good standing of the Canadian Senior National Team Roster at the time of selection (see article 4.3 below)
  - d) Have paid all outstanding invoices to Karate Canada at least seven (7) days prior to departure for the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament.

### **4.2. Age Eligibility Requirements:**

As per the IOC and WKF Qualification System for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games document, in order to be eligible for selection onto the Canadian National Team for this specific event, athletes must be born on or before May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004 for the Kata events and on or before May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2002 for the Kumite events.

### **4.3 Status as member in good standing of the Canadian Senior National Team Roster:**

In order to be eligible for selection to WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament, an athlete must be a member in good standing of the Senior National Team Roster at the time of selection in accordance with the 2020-2021 Senior National Team Selection Criteria. This includes having signed and abiding by Karate Canada's 2020-2021 National Team Roster Athlete Agreement.

Even after nomination, selected athletes will be required to maintain status as members in good standing of the Senior National Team Roster from the time of selection up until and including participation in the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament.

Please note: As part of the Senior National Team Roster requirements, athletes must participate in the 2020 Karate Canada's National Championships (unless they benefit from an approved exemption request).

#### **4.4. Dress Code & Equipment**

Athletes named to compete in the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament will be required to comply with dress code regulations of the Karate Canada Team.

Athletes named to the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament will only be allowed to use competition protective equipment that meets with the rules and regulations of the WKF.

### **V. SELECTION CRITERIA**

#### **5.1 Athlete Selection Process & Criteria**

##### **5.1.1 Qualification System:**

###### Tier 1 Selection

Athletes who rank in the top 50 athletes on the Official WKF Tokyo 2020 Standings ([http://setopen.sportdata.org/wkfranking/standing\\_tokyo2020.php](http://setopen.sportdata.org/wkfranking/standing_tokyo2020.php)) on March 2nd, 2020 will be considered for direct selection on to the Canadian Team representing Canada at the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament.

Should two (2) or more Canadian athletes be placed in the top 50 athletes in the Official WKF Tokyo 2020 Standings, the top-ranked athlete will be selected to the Canadian Team representing Canada at the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament.

Should two (2) or more Canadian athletes be tied for the top-ranked spot within the top 50 athletes in the Official WKF Tokyo 2020 Standings, the athlete with the most WKF Tokyo 2020 Standings points minus participation points will be selected to the Canadian Team representing Canada at the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament.

Should the tie persist, a “best two out of three” challenge match elimination format shall be conducted at the 2020 Senior National Championships between the two tied athletes. The winner of the challenge match shall be ranked 1<sup>st</sup> for the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament and the loser being ranked 2nd. These matches shall be officiated by top-level officials.

###### Tier 2 Selection

The Tier 2 selection process will apply to athletes not selected through the Tier 1 process and will be conducted as follows.

The Tier 2 selection process for non-combined OG divisions (i.e. male kata, female kata, male -75kgs kumite and female -61kgs kumite) will utilize Karate Canada's internal

ranking system as defined in the 2020/2021 Senior National Team Selection Criteria. The top-ranked athletes at the conclusion of the 2020 Senior National Championships (including ranking points earned at this event) in each non-combined OG division will be selected to represent Canada at the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament.

The Tier 2 selection process for combined OG divisions (i.e. male -67kg kumite, male +75 kgs kumite, female -55kgs kumite and female +61 kgs kumite) will consist of “Challenge Matches” between the top Karate Canada ranked athletes in each of the WKF standard kumite weight divisions. Challenge matches will be held at the March 2020 Senior National Championships (exact date to be determined) in a round robin format consisting of the top two (2) KC ranked athletes in each of the two combined standard WKF weight divisions.

A total of four (4) round robin pools may be required. Specifically, the top two (2) KC ranked -50kg athletes and the top two (2) -55kg athlete will form the first required round robin pool. The top two (2) KC ranked -68kg and the top two (2) KC ranked +68 kg athletes will form the second required round robin pool. The top two (2) KC ranked -60kg and the top two (2) -67kg athletes will form the third required round robin pool. The top -84kg and the top two (2) +84 KG KC ranked athletes will form the final required round robin pool.

Round robin events will be conducted even in divisions where a Tier 1 athlete has been named to represent Canada at the WKF Qualification event. This will be required to accurately rank the combined division athletes in the case that the Tier 1 selected athlete is not able to compete in the qualification event. Round robin events for these divisions will include only three (3) athletes. One (1) athlete from the standard WKF division from which the Tier 1 athlete was selected (the top-ranked KC athlete when not considering the Tier 1 selected athlete) and two (2) athletes from the remaining standard WKF weight division.

In divisions where two (2) Tier 1 athletes were tied and where a “best two out of three” challenge match format as required to determine the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> selected athletes, only the top-ranked KC athlete (excluding any Tier 1 selected athletes) in each standard WKF division at the conclusion of the 2020 Senior National Championships will be required to participate in the challenge matches. The challenge match between these two (2) athlete will be conducted as a “best two out of three” elimination format with the winner being ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament ranking and the loser being ranked 4<sup>th</sup>.

Should a top-ranked athlete decline to compete in the Challenges Matches the next highest ranked athlete in the division will be invited to compete. Invitations will only be extended down to the 4<sup>th</sup> ranked Karate Canada athlete in each standard WKF division.

Challenge matches will be conducted after the WKF standard weight categories have been completed and officiated by top-level officials.

The Sportdata event management software round robin elimination format will be utilized.

## **5.2 Alternates**

The selection of alternates for the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament in non-combined OG categories will be based upon KC’s internal ranking system based upon

points earned until the conclusion of the 2020 Senior National Championships. In the case that the top-placing athlete selected through either the Tier 1 or Tier 2 process is unable to represent Canada at the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament, the next highest placing athlete will be selected.

The selection of alternates for the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament in combined categories will be based upon the athlete placement determined by the outcomes of the challenge matches conducted at the 2020 National Championships. In the case that the top-placing athlete selected through either the Tier 1 or Tier 2 process is unable to represent Canada at the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament, the next highest placing athlete will be selected.

### **5.3 Performance Readiness**

All athletes selected by Karate Canada for participation in the WKF Qualification Event will be required to comply with all requirements and rules listed and described in Karate Canada's Senior National Team Criteria, at the time of their selection and from the moment of that selection until their participation in the WKF Qualification Event, inclusively. This includes mandatory participation in the national, inter-regional and regional training camps for identified athletes.

Athletes selected for participation in the WKF Qualification Event must comply with the team preparation plans as set forth by Karate Canada's Senior National Team Head Coaches.

#### **5.3.1 Maintaining Weight**

Kumite athletes selected by Karate Canada for participation in the WKF Qualification Event will be expected to remain within a reasonable range from the upper weight limit for their OG division. Karate Canada may weigh selected athletes between the dates of team selection (March 2020) and of departure for the WKF Qualification Event. Kumite athletes must not exceed their weight division's upper limit by more than 5% of that weight. Athletes who fail to remain within 5% of their OG weight division's upper limit will be subject to possible removal from the Team, at Karate Canada's discretion.

#### **5.3.2 Injury or Illness**

In the case of injury or illness, the discipline-specific Head Coach will consider medical recommendations in making a final decision related to performance readiness. Injured or ill athletes will be subject to a proof of readiness test to be determined by the Head Coach. This test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or an



observed trial or test. This trial will have predetermined expected outcomes and take place in Canada. Injured or ill athletes will not travel with the team until this requirement has been satisfied. If it is determined that an athlete is not competition-ready once on-site at the WKF Olympic Qualification Tournament, or has not disclosed an injury or illness, he/she may be asked to return home immediately.

#### **5.4 Removal of an Athlete Once Selected**

Eligibility of qualified athletes to represent Canada at the WKF Qualification Event will remain conditional upon said athletes meeting all Senior National Team Roster requirements from the moment of their qualification / selection and until the conclusion of the WKF Qualification Event.

Should any qualified athlete fail to meet such requirements, they may be removed from the Canadian karate team for the WKF Qualification Event.

Reasons for dismissal include, but are not limited to:

- Inability to perform due to injury, illness or for other medical reasons as determined by Karate Canada's medical staff;
- Violation of team rules and / or failure by the athlete to fulfill his / her duties as identified in the 2020-2021 Karate Canada Athlete Agreement;
- Violation of the Karate Canada's Code of Conduct and Ethics ([http://www.karatecanada.org/pdf/KC-code\\_of\\_conduct\\_and\\_ethics\\_15Dec2014.pdf](http://www.karatecanada.org/pdf/KC-code_of_conduct_and_ethics_15Dec2014.pdf));
- Conduct detrimental to the Team and/or the image of Karate Canada and /or its National Team program;
- Failure to adhere to all WADA, CCES, and COC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures including participation in out-of-competition testing as required by WADA, CCES, and COC Rules;
- Failure by the athlete to maintain his/her weight within an acceptable range (see article 5.3.1 above).

The decision-making authority for removal of an athlete is at the discretion of the discipline-specific Senior National Team Head Coach, but such decision-making must be made in consultation with the High-Performance Director and be approved by Karate Canada's High-Performance Committee.

##### **5.4.1 On-site decision-making authority to remove an athlete from the Team:**

As stated in section II, during the actual competition period onsite at the WKF Qualification Event, all final decision-making authority will reside with the Team Leader, or with the discipline-specific Senior National Team Head Coach in the absence of the Team Leader (this includes, but is not limited to, decisions around removal of an athlete from the team, management of injuries, etc.).

## **VI. TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

Karate Canada will make a public announcement of its selected athletes after April 4th, 2020

## **VII. AMENDMENTS & UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES**

Karate Canada's Board of Directors reserves the right to review and modify any criteria or decision related to this selection process in the case of rule or policy changes from the WKF and or the IOC that affect the selection criteria set out in this document. If the INP is modified, Karate Canada will promptly post an announcement on its website announcing the changes.

## **VIII. APPEALS**

Karate Canada nominations to the WKF Qualification Event may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in Karate Canada's Appeal Policy. Any dispute relating to Karate Canada's Internal Nomination Procedures for the WKF Qualification Event must be brought according to said policy or may be brought directly to the SDRCC with the consent of all parties.

## **IX. PUBLICATION**

Karate Canada's Internal Nomination Procedures for the WKF Qualification Event will be posted on Karate Canada's website and distributed by email to all members in good standing of the Senior National Team Roster no later than October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.